

Agricultural Convention.

It is with much pleasure that we can announce that the meeting of the Agricultural Association held in this city on yesterday was a decided success. The large attendance of delegates, their character and the extent of country and interests they represent, and the business accomplished, places the undertaking on a sure and firm foundation. Some fifteen counties in this State and South Carolina were represented by men of standing and substance, and all displayed the most anxious interest in the sessions of the Convention and the objects in view.

We call attention to the proceedings of the Association published elsewhere. They will be found important, involving many questions of vital interest to our people. Many of these matters will form the subjects of future consideration in our columns. In order to give ample room to these proceedings, and other matters of current news, we must suspend further remarks.

Daily Journal 30th.

North Carolina Railroad and its Management.

President Smith has finally written an article—we know the authorship by the "car marks." It is a silly and ungrammatical mixture of nonsensical egotism. But, as the poor fellow gives up the controversy and appeals for protection to the Radical party against our attacks, we will permit him to retire without further molestation. We will say, however, that his piteous cries to his party friends, that our ventilation of his shortcomings is an attack upon the Republican party, to say the least, is a species of vainglorious self-justification, which is quite refreshing. Our opinion of the Radical party is none the best, but we must pay them the doubtful compliment of admitting that we had never placed so low an estimate upon them as does this self-conceited official. We are fearful that North Carolina Radicalism will survive the official death of President Smith. His own friends have hastened that sad event in their vote on "Consolidation," and none of them, we expect, suppose, in doing this, that they could be charged with hostility to their party.

President Smith's egotistic statement that our attacks upon him were secret thrusts at his party was duly anticipated by us and provided against. To meet this expected charge, for we knew that drowning men catch at straws, we had already published extracts from the speeches of Representatives Seymour and Estes, and the conversation of Senator Galloway, high authority in his political church, sustaining our different articles in several of their most pertinent points. And below, we quote again from a loyal correspondent of the Standard, whose letter unfortunately appears, side by side, with President Smith's article.

We cannot close without asking this official how he comes on "gouging" President Hawkins. A friend has intimated to us that this latter gentleman does not grow lean under the operation, but actually is waxing fat. The fact is, President Smith, you don't "gouge" deep enough; you only succeed in tickling that official, and he laughs at you (in his sleeve). What an incorrigible wack, to be sure, who perpetrated that joke for you and at your expense, President Smith.

Says the Standard correspondent:

"The 'consolidation' measure has passed its second reading by a very decided majority and of course there will be little opposition to its final passage. This is as it should be. Let the roads be consolidated, and placed under the management of energetic business men, and the traveler will not be compelled to drag out a weary ride of four hours from Raleigh to the railroad station of forty-eight miles on a freight train 'with passenger car attached.' A rumor was current a few days ago, that some enterprising individual was going to establish a line of stages between Raleigh and Goldsboro, and thus secure the traveling public a more comfortable and less expensive mode of travel. We do not know how much truth there is in the rumor, but we are satisfied there is a good opening for it when it comes to having to keep the cars loaded to keep the passengers from getting cold and taking it on foot, it is nearly as good as taken."

Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad.

The bill as amended in the House passed the Senate on Wednesday night. The general outlines of the bill we have published. The following important amendments were incorporated, and heretofore published.

Mr. Estes moved to amend as follows, which was adopted:

Provided, That on or before the day upon which the first coupon of the bonds authorized by this act shall become due, the President of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford Railroad Company shall pay to the Public Treasurer, either in cash or in matured coupons of bonds upon which the second coupon is due, the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars; and on or before the day upon which the second coupon of the bonds authorized by this act shall become due, the President of the above named Railroad Company shall pay to the Public Treasurer in like manner the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars; and on or before the day upon which the third coupon of the bonds authorized by this act shall become due, the President of the above named Railroad Company shall pay to the Public Treasurer in like manner the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars; and on or before the day upon which the fourth coupon of the bonds authorized by this act shall become due, the President of the above named Railroad Company shall pay to the Public Treasurer in like manner the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars.

Provided, That of the bonds authorized to be issued under this act, seven hundred and twenty thousand dollars shall be retained by the Public Treasurer as collateral security for the faithful performance of the conditions of the preceding section; and that upon the payment of the first one hundred and twenty thousand dollars as aforesaid, the Public Treasurer shall be authorized to deliver to said Railroad Company, two hundred and forty thousand dollars of the above named bonds and twenty thousand dollars of bonds; and upon the payment of the succeeding amounts named in said section, the Public Treasurer is authorized to deliver to the amount or the sum paid, until said bonds are delivered to said Railroad Company. Provided, also, That the expiration of five years from the date of the first coupon of the bonds authorized in this act, the Public Treasurer shall be authorized to pay to said Railroad Company an additional amount of bonds equal to their par value to the amount paid in cash by said Company in behalf of the State according to the provisions of section 7 of this act, said bonds to be in all respects similar to those authorized to be issued by this act.

Mr. Malone proposed the following, which was also adopted:

"Sec. 12. That the directors of this Company shall have power to receive subscriptions to stock in said Company in lands, money, bonds, stocks or any other property. And in any such subscription as stock, the directors may provide the mode in which the value of the same may be ascertained and consequences thereof executed."

Agricultural Fair.

We regard the project of holding an Agricultural Fair in this city during the coming Fall as no longer a question of doubt. The gratifying success of the meeting of the Cape Fear Agricultural Association, and the determination expressed by the members settles this matter beyond dispute. Let the Committee who have the subject in charge procure at once a suitable site, and we have no hesitation in promising that the requisite amount to provide the necessary buildings and improvements can be raised in our city.

We regret the hesitation on the part of the County Commissioners to donate the lands which the Committee regard as the best suited for the purpose, and yet hope that the great benefit to be derived by the county in the establishment of these Fairs will cause them to reconsider their action. The lands desired have never been a source of profit to the county, and no other disposition of them will so enhance the value of the residue, or promote the general welfare of the entire county. But if the Committee find the Commissioners fixed in their action, then another location must be selected at once. No time must be lost, for there is much to be accomplished to insure a successful Fair this year.

We hope that the Executive Committee will immediately appoint a special committee to prepare a memorial addressed to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, asking a suitable appropriation on the part of the city, and let every citizen, white and black, sign it. We are confident that there will be every disposition on the part of our municipal officers, in their official and individual capacities, to aid this work. A petition numerously signed would relieve them of any doubts in regard to their action in making a liberal appropriation.

Let the application to the Legislature be pressed—our members will doubtless urge our claims upon that body with all their influence.

And, finally, let judiciously selected committees approach our citizens soliciting individual subscriptions, and we are confident that in less than sixty days the necessary amount will be raised. A reliable estimate should be made of the money required to provide the buildings and make the necessary improvements.

If our immediate citizens are only half as much in earnest as the farmers are, this matter will not be permitted to rest until the work is accomplished. And if it is not, then we will suffer from our own shortsightedness and niggardliness.

North Carolina Carpet-Baggers.

Our sister State is infested with the same vermin that we are, says the Richmond Whip, and perhaps in greater abundance. Under the auspices of Gov. Holden, they have been having a jolly time. The poor old State has been made to bleed freely—and the cries of frauds, swindlers and villainies of all sorts have resounded through the land. A "Republican" Senator (Mr. Sweet) becoming possessed of facts, which, in his opinion, would convict the guilty parties, asked for a committee of investigation, pledging himself to make good the charges of fraud and corruption. The committee was granted. The first subject that fell in its way was the Penitentiary job. That was at once explored, and, resting upon record evidence, the facts were easily ascertained—and they proved all that had been charged. When the committee was about to proceed to other rascals, which depended on individual testimony, the witnesses all suddenly disappeared, and not one could be found. Among those mentioned by the *Sentinel* as a Mrs. Cary—who, it is said, has taken refuge in Richmond—a Gen. Littlefield, editor of the *Standard*, whose whereabouts is unknown, and a Judge Allen, for whose apprehension the *Sentinel* offers a reward of \$50,000. The investigating committee being thus balked, the carpet-baggers are for the time being in great glee, and defiantly call upon Mr. Sweet and his committee to prove their charges! Whether they will succeed in the end in baffling justice, time will tell—the chances are in their favor.

The Raleigh *Sentinel* has the following notice of the fugitive witnesses. One of the heinous offences of which they are privy is an attempted fraudulent sale of the North Carolina Railroad, which is a Penitentiary offence:

\$50,000 REWARD!—ANOTHER CARPET BAGGER ON THE WING!!

Judge Allen is off. We never saw him, and therefore can't describe his personal or intellectual characteristics. He shall be more fully described when our friends shall describe him to us. Send in your description of this flying carpet-bagger. He belonged to Governor Holden's reconstruction staff of the last campaign. The attendants of our Carriage preceded him. Mrs. Ann Cary, and her husband, preceded him. He had no name, and no address; he suggested a committee of investigation; carpet-baggers and swindlers were the result. He talked with Senator Sweet. He moved for the committee. When the committee is raised General Littlefield is a frequent visitor at the hotel where he boards. Mr. Cary is known to have been elected, yes, shut up with her in the Exchange Hotel—holding more than one interview with this lady, her husband being cognizant of the fact.

On Monday, the 7th day of December, cold, dark and rainy. Mrs. Ann Cary, at twenty minutes before 8 o'clock, leaves the Exchange Hotel, takes the omnibus for St. Mary's School to visit her niece; instead of returning to the hotel she went to the depot; 20 minutes past 9 o'clock she took the train for Richmond, without husband or attendant, carpet-bag, night cap or night gown; without the knowledge of the landlord, or of a single boarder of the house. On the next train followed her bonnet box and Saratoga trunk.

When Senator Sweet asked her husband when she would return, and if she had relations in Richmond, Mr. Cary said she had none and would return in a day or two. Yet the fact is, and we know it to be so, she has engaged board at the Spotswood House in Richmond, to more than the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars; and she did this wickedness triumph over virtue, and falsehood over truth. Since Gen. Littlefield and this did Littlefield triumph over virtue, and falsehood over truth. Since Gen. Littlefield and this did Littlefield triumph over virtue, and falsehood over truth. Since Gen. Littlefield and this did Littlefield triumph over virtue, and falsehood over truth.

Hints on Agriculture.

LABOR-SAVING IMPLEMENTS.

Labor-saving implements were once thought to be destructive to the interest of the workingman just in proportion as they saved the drudgery of labor. This seems reasonable at first, but a little thought will correct the error. How, then, do the farm laborers thrown out of work by the introduction of improved implements ultimately find work? Plainly by the increased amount of tillage, which machinery and tools make possible in the

country. In a section where all the soil is under cultivation of some kind, it leads to more thorough systems of farming. In the case of our country, it leads to the faster extension of civilization Westward, the rapid subjugation of wild land, and the better cultivation of the already tilled plough. For instance, the Western grain-grower who now devotes seventy-five to one hundred and fifty acres to corn and other crops, with the meagre facilities of thirty years ago, could not have managed one-fourth part that amount in the same manner. This increase of agriculture not only keeps good the original number of farm laborers, but creates a new demand for laborers in every other field of industry.

MECHANICAL INGENUITY OF FARMERS.

One of the component parts of a good farmer is mechanical ingenuity. Some lose half a day's time for want of knowing how to repair a breakage which an ingenious person could do in five minutes. A team and two or three men are sometimes stopped a whole day at a critical season for want of a little mechanical skill. It is well for every farmer to know a few of the tricks for repairing. In addition to the more common tools, he should keep a supply of nails of different sizes, screws, bolts, and nuts. Common cut nails are too brittle for repairing implements or for other similar purposes. But only the very best, and of antique form, and they answer all the ordinary purposes of the best wrought nails. To anneal them, that is necessary is to heat them red-hot in a common fire and cool gradually. Let them cool, for instance, by remaining in the fire until it burns down and goes out. One such nail, well clinched, will be worth half a dozen annealed. Nothing is more common than for a farmer to visit the blacksmith's shop to get a broken or lost bolt or rivet inserted, and often a single nut on a bolt. This must be paid for, and much time is lost. By providing a supply of bolts, nuts, and screws, much time and trouble may be saved. They may be purchased wholesale at a low rate. These should all be kept in shallow boxes, with compartments made for the purpose, furnished with a bow-handle for convenience in carrying them. One box with half a dozen divisions may be appropriated to nails of different sizes, and another with as many compartments, to screws, bolts, rivets, &c. Every farmer should keep on hand a supply of copper wire and small pieces of sheet copper or copper traps. Copper wire is better than annealed iron wire. It burns down and goes out. One such nail, well clinched, will be worth half a dozen annealed. 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